

TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION, 1101.

(OFFICIAL REPORT).

Monday, the 19th April, 1926/7th Medam, 1101.

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, at 11-30 A. M., with the President in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following members were sworn in under Rule 20 of the Legislative Council Electoral Rules :—

- (1) Mr. Paul Daniel (*Nominated*)
- (2) Mr. P. N. Krishna Pillai (*Ag. Secretary to Government*)
- (3) Mr. R. Krishnaswami Aiyar (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*)
- (4) Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*)
- (5) Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai (*Commerce and Industry, South*).
- (6) Mr. V. S. Subrahmanya Aiyar (*Head Sirkar Vakil*).

THE LATE MR. GNANA JOSHUA AND MR. HOOGEWERF.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Sir, before we begin the regular business of the day, permit me to bring formally to the notice of this House the sad and unexpected death of Mr. Gnana Joshua, one of the members of this Council. When we met last time, we never expected that his end would be so near. Ever since his retirement from Government service, Mr. Joshua devoted himself to the uplift of depressed classes of which he himself was an enlightened member. Though his period of membership in this Council was short, he has given ample proof of his earnestness for the cause he had so much at heart. In his death, the community to which he belonged has lost a staunch supporter, and this Council, a useful member. It is therefore due to him that we should record our appreciation of the good services rendered by him and to express our deep sympathy with his widow and children in their sad bereavement.

PRESIDENT : Mr. Subba Aiyar, I am very pleased indeed to hear you make a kind allusion to Mr. Gnana Joshua who lately passed away from among us. There is not a member of this House who has not felt, and that profoundly, the strength of his earnestness, the completeness of his sympathy and his ungrudging whole-heartedness to the cause he advocated, and, I am sure, his efforts did not begin and end with the community he represented. The example of such a life as that extends far beyond the confines of the community to which it was primarily devoted. Therefore, I reciprocate your sentiments entirely and I hope the family of the late Mr. Gnana Joshua will accept this expression of sympathy with them in their bereavement. Mr. Gnana Joshua was a member of this Council when he was called away.

I do not think it will be inappropriate for me to make an allusion also to another devoted member of this Council who was called to his rest a few days ago. It is true that he was not a member of this Council when that sad event occurred, but he had been a member of this Council for years before. I refer to the late Mr. Hoogewerf. He too was an earnest soul and he too was devoted to all causes that helped on humanity. Even if he was the fighter of lost causes sometimes, that is all the more to his credit. So I ask you also to register your feelings of sympathy with his family too in their loss.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12 —

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Reduction of Expenditure on the Agricultural Department.

163. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): With a view to make the amount now spent on the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries productive of more benefit to the people, will the Government be pleased to reduce the expenditure on the appointment of experts in that department by 50 per cent. as opportunities occur, and utilise the proceeds for reducing the land tax, especially in areas where crops have deteriorated owing to the attacks of disease or for want of protective or productive irrigation works, and the taxes on fisheries?